

HANDBOOK OF PHONOLOGICAL DATA  
FROM A SAMPLE OF THE WORLD'S LANGUAGES

A Report of the Stanford Phonology Archive

Compiled and edited by

John H. Crothers  
James P. Lorentz  
Donald A. Sherman  
Marilyn M. Vihman

	130 Gbeya	130 Gbeya	130 Gbeya
130	01 p <sup>01</sup> 65 66	19 z [z-hacek] <sup>60</sup> (free)	55 e [iota] <sup>62</sup> (free)
130	02 b <sup>01</sup> 65 69	20 m <sup>66</sup>	57 epsilon
130	03 b-prenasalized	21 m-preglottalized	59 ash-nasalized
130	04 b-implosive	22 n <sup>06</sup>	61 a
130	05 t <sup>01</sup> 06	23 n-preglottalized <sup>06</sup>	63 a-nasalized
130	06 d <sup>01</sup> 06	24 eng <sup>66</sup>	65 u
130	07 d-prenasalized <sup>06</sup>	25 eng/m	67 u-nasalized
130	08 d-implosive <sup>06</sup>	26 ɿ <sup>06</sup> 68	69 o [upsilon] <sup>62</sup> (free)
130	09 k <sup>01</sup> 65 66	27 r-flap <sup>68</sup> [l-flap] <sup>61</sup> [l-flap-nasalized] <sup>61</sup> [r-trill] <sup>61</sup> (free)	71 o-open
130	10 ɣ <sup>01</sup> 65	28 glottal stop <sup>03</sup> (limited)	73 o-open-nasalized
130	11 ɣ-prenasalized	29 h	75 yod [yod-nasalized] <sup>63</sup>
130	12 k/p <sup>01</sup>		76 w <sup>69</sup> [w-nasalized] <sup>63</sup>
130	13 ɣ/b		
130	14 ɣ/b-prenasalized		
130	15 f		
130	16 v		
130	17 v-flap <sup>02</sup> (limited)		
130	18 s [s-hacek] <sup>60</sup> (free)	51 i 53 i-nasalized	81 high <sup>70</sup> 82 low <sup>05</sup> 70
130	\$a Gbeya \$b Bossangoa \$d Adamawa-Eastern \$e NW Central African Republic \$f 300,000 (all dialects) \$g Merritt Ruhlen \$g Jim Lorentz (review)		
130	\$a Samarin, William J. \$b 1966 \$c The Gbeya Language \$f (UCPL 44) \$g Berkeley: U.C. Press \$q informants		
130	\$a INTONATION \$A "Period contour indicates the absence of real emotional involvement.... It is characterized by a drifting down of tones toward the end of the sentence so that a final low or high tone is lower than the low and high of the following sentence. The effects on high tones are especially noticeable.... Question contour indicates a question for confirmation or clarification.... It is characterized by a slightly rising glide on the final vowel, either from phonemic low or high, to a level slightly higher than is normal level.... Double-exclamation contour indicates insistence or impatience and most often occurs with directives. It is characterized by a final falling pitch, from high to low and from low to lower." (p.31-32)		
130	\$a LONG VOWELS \$A "Long vowels are equal in length to a cluster of two vowels and are phonemicized as such. No contrast exists between /vowel-long/ and /vowel.vowel/, either in their length or in the types of tones with which they occur." (p.28)		
130	\$a NASAL PROSODY \$A "There is complete nasalization of vowels in any stretch of speech between junctures; oral and nasalized vowels never occur together in this environment." Nasalized vowels do not occur adjacent to the consonants /b-implosive, d-implosive, v-flap, l/, and prenasalized stops, and do not occur before the voiced stops /b, d, ɣ, ɣ/b/. Samarin writes nasalization only on the first vowel of a word. (p.29) He adds (p.39): "The most characteristic feature of the Gbeya language is its nasality...[even] more nasal than...some other Gbaya idioms...perhaps due to the strong nasalization of...[yod-nasalized] and [l-flap-nasalized]. But...also due to the partial nasalization of vowels contiguous to the frequently occurring nasal consonants."		

- 130 \$a PHONOLOGICAL WORD \$A initial C: "/eng/ occurs initially in only three words, all descriptive adverbs." \$A final C: /p, t, k, m, n, eng, l, r-flap, yod/ \$A medial C: not /h/ (p.26-7)
- 130 \$a PRENASALIZED STOPS \$A It seems possible that the prenasalized stops and the simple nasals could be in complementary distribution. The former never occur before or after nasalized vowels (p.29); the latter are supposed by Samarin to occur before both oral and nasalized vowels, but there seem to be no examples of contrast. (See p.30.) It is thus possible that the simple nasals occur just before nasalized vowels (and syllable finally), while the prenasalized stops occur before oral vowels. A variety of alternations between the two sets (p.33) might be reinterpreted in these terms. [JHC]
- 130 \$a STRESS \$A no stress
- 130 \$a SYLLABLE \$A (C)V(V)(C) \$A A variety of vowel sequences occur, including long vowels, each mora of which has its own tone.
- 130 \$a TONE \$A domain of tone: syllable
- 130 \$a VOWEL HARMONY \$A Gbeya has a limited kind of "vertical" vowel harmony which affects the higher mid and lower mid vowels. /e, o/ and /epsilon, o-open, ash-nasalized, o-open-nasalized/ form mutually exclusive sets. Vowels from the two sets cannot co-occur in the same word. In addition a syllable with /epsilon/ cannot be followed by one with /u/, though the reverse sequence is acceptable. (p.28) [JHC]
- 130 \$g falsetto voice \$A There is "a kind of falsetto. It may be described as tensing of articulation, accompanied by a certain huskiness or scratchiness of voice and rise in pitch.... It is my impression that the speech of women is more characterized by this falsetto than is that of men. Some women...seemed to speak in this manner always. Among the men, certainly, and perhaps among the women too, the falsetto was used when they were pleading for something or contradicting what another person had just said. Perhaps it indicates embarrassment." (p.39)
- 130 01 \$A "Voiceless stops are usually slightly aspirated, more so than the double stops." "The voiced stops...were often heard (outside of citation forms) as voiceless stops, but never aspirated." (p.19) In footnote 3 (p.42), Samarin suggests the possibility that "the contrast...[is] not between voiceless and voiced, but between fortis and lenis, with voicing an accompanying but not distinctive feature."
- 130 02 \$A /v-flap/ is produced by drawing the lower lip behind the upper teeth and then rapidly flapping it outward." It occurs in only a few words. (p.26)
- 130 03 \$A "The /glottal stop/ has allophones [glottal stop] and [zero] which alternate freely between vowels in close juncture and before vowels following pause or open juncture. In this latter, called initial, position, /glottal stop/ occurs when something is being emphasized, but since there are so few words with initial [glottal stop.vowel], this is not common. In medial position /glottal stop/ occurs only in (3 lexical items) and a few interjections...." (p.20)
- 130 05 \$A Samarin mentions a [high-falling] allotone of /low/, occurring following voiceless phones on the first vowel of an utterance. Since this always has an emphatic meaning, it seems best to treat it as an intonational feature. Falling tone "does not begin as high as a high tone, and it falls much more rapidly than the glide in a sequence of high-low." (p.29)
- 130 06 \$A The dentals /t, d, d-prenasalized, d-implosive, n, n-preglottalized, l/ are called "apico-postdental" as opposed to the "apico-alveolars" /s, z, r-flap/.
- 130 60 \$A "Both [s/ and [z/...have laminoalveolar grooved allophones [s-hacek] and [z-hacek] as well as non-grooved ones. These grooved allophones are very much like the English phones in articulation. The grooved and non-grooved allophones freely vary in all positions where the phonemes can occur, but the occurrence of the grooved allophones is dialectally determined." (p.20-21) "The freedom of this variation is of course relative. I do not in fact know whether for any particular word [s] or [s-hacek] is more frequent." (p.42n)
- 130 61 \$A "The apico-alveolar flap and trill occur only before juncture or pause and although usually voiced do sometimes occur voiceless. The variation between these allophones is free although there is some evidence that [r-trill] is used, sometimes quite prolonged, for certain stylistic reasons." The lateral flaps occur word initially and intervocally. [l-flap] occurs before oral vowels. [l-flap-nasalized] occurs before nasal vowels. (p.25)
- 130 62 \$A "Although the usual articulation [of /e/ and /o/] is at higher-mid, vocoids slightly higher, approaching lower high, seem to vary freely with the higher mid varieties." (p.27)
- 130 63 \$A Glides are nasalized when contiguous with a nasalized vowel. "[yod-nasalized]...sometimes sounds very much like a lamino-alveolar nasal." (p.22)
- 130 65 \$A "The voiced stop /g/ occasionally replaces /k/ before voiced nonnasal consonants in rapid speech where two adjacent words are closely linked in the same syntactic construction." (p.27) This alternation also occurs (but apparently quite rarely) for /p/-/b/ in the same environment.

(p.32)

- 130 66    \$A "A word-final voiceless stop phoneme often becomes a nasal of the same point of articulation before another nasal." The most common alternation is /k/ to /eng/, although /p/ to /m/ also occurs. The alternation /p/ to /m/ also occurs word-finally between a nasalized vowel and a following voiced consonant. This alternation is infrequent because the sequence of segments is rare. (p.32)
- 130 68    \$A /l/ alternates with /r-flap/ in some words. (p.21)
- 130 69    \$A "A word-initial /w/ may be replaced by /b/ following /m/." (p.33)
- 130 70    \$A "Final high tone which is preceded by a low tone is often replaced by low tone when followed by an initial high tone of another word.... All instances recorded are restricted to substantives, verbs and the preposition /n.epsilon/." (p.34)